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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 07040.0223

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Gianfranco COLOMBO et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1791  
)  
Application No.: 10/533,927 ) Examiner: Steven D. Maki  
)  
Filed: December 2, 2005 ) Confirmation No.: 8155  
)  
For: TREAD PATTERN FOR WINTER )  
TIRES )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached IDS Form PTO/SB/08. To the best of Applicants' knowledge, this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Copies of the listed foreign patent and non-patent literature documents are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached IDS Form PTO/SB/08.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents.

**JP 05-229309** - The relevance of this document may be provided by the attached copy of an English-language Abstract of the document.

**JP 08-197912** - The relevance of this document may be provided by the attached copy of an English-language Abstract of the document.

**JP 09-132011** - The relevance of this document may be provided by the attached copy of an English-language Abstract of the document.

**JP 2000-219011** - The relevance of this document may be provided by the attached copy of an English-language Abstract of the document.

**JP 2002-019423** - The relevance of this document may be provided by the attached copy of an English-language Abstract of the document.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

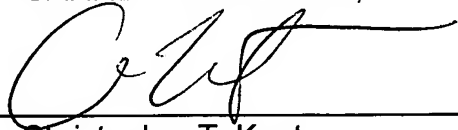
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Supplemental  
Information Disclosure Statement, please charge the fee to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 9, 2009

By:   
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